



**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY JULY 10th, 2023 @ 6:00 PM
CHERRYVILLE COMMUNITY BUILDING
W. J. ALLRAN JR. COUNCIL CHAMBERS
106 S. JACOB ST. CHERRYVILLE, N.C. 28021**

The Honorable Mayor H.L. Beam called the regular scheduled meeting to order at the community building in the William J. Allran Jr. Council Chambers. Councilmember's Jill Puett, Jon Abernethy, Gary Freeman and Malcolm Parker were present. City Manager Brian Dalton, City Clerk Paige H. Green, City Attorney Palmer Huffstetler Jr., Public Works Director Chris J. King, Planning & Zoning Director Alex Blackburn, Wastewater Superintendent Larry Wright, Finance Director Dixie Wall, Downtown Director David Day, Asst. Fire Chief Colby Heffner, and Police Chief Brandon Hunsucker were also present. Michael Powell with the Cherryville Eagle and Kara Fortner with the Gaston Gazette were present for media coverage.

INVOCATION: PASTOR VINCE HEFNER, FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH:

Dr. Pastor Vince Hefner gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

Councilmember Puett made a motion to approve the following minutes

- A. CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING JUNE 12, 2023
- B. CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING JUNE 27, 2023

Councilmember Abernethy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS:

"The city's Independence Day celebration held on June 30th at Rudisill Stadium was again a huge success this year. Many of those in attendance estimated the crowds to be in excess of five thousand. The Tams Show Band did a great task of getting the fans involved with their performance. Thanks go out to Patrick O'Leary for sponsoring the spectacular fireworks display that ended the celebration.

This past Friday, I along with Council Members Malcolm Parker and Jon Abernethy, all traveled to the Gaston County Board of Elections to file for reelection in this coming November's election. The three of us are seeking to serve our city once again for the upcoming term of our respective offices.

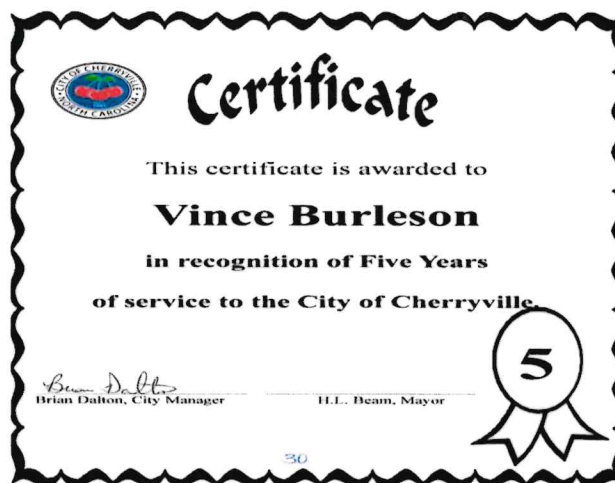
The new "Welcome to Cherryville" sign at the corner of Depot and Main Streets is nearing completion. The sign looks great and I urge all citizens to go by and visit this sign. Thanks to Bean Brothers for the hard work that was put into building this gateway to our downtown area.

The City of Cherryville was chosen by World Atlas as having one of the great looking Main Streets in the U.S. World Atlas stated that our main street is one of the best main streets you will find in any town throughout the entire South. The historic downtown contains many buildings that were constructed in the early 1900's and earlier. Cherryville, it stated is an ideal place for community events such as festivals, parades, farmers' markets, and more that bring people together in a cozy small-town atmosphere. We owe this recognition to the tireless work of all the members and volunteers of our Main Street Program.

On Wednesday of this week, I will be attending this year's Main Street Kick-Off Celebration. This event will begin at 6 p.m. here in the community building. This year's theme is Main Street USA, and the featured guest speaker will be Main Street Director Jamie Carpenter of Hendersonville N.C."

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEE'S YEARS OF SERVICE, MAYOR H.L. BEAM (See Agenda Material):

Mayor Beam recognized the following employee for his years of service:



SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF NCDOL SAFETY AWARDS, MAYOR H.L. BEAM:

Mayor Beam recognized the follow department for NC Department of Labor safety awards:



Certificate of Safety Achievement

Second Consecutive Year Gold

In recognition of the outstanding safety and health efforts of

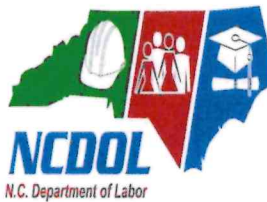
CITY OF CHERRYVILLE

PUBLIC UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

that resulted in a substantial reduction of injuries and illnesses
and the promotion of safer working conditions in 2022.



Jack Johnson
Commissioner of Labor



Certificate of Safety Achievement

Second Consecutive Year Gold

In recognition of the outstanding safety and health efforts of

CITY OF CHERRYVILLE

POLICE DEPARTMENT

that resulted in a substantial reduction of injuries and illnesses
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Jack Johnson
Commissioner of Labor

Mr. Putnam, "So, so, anyway, you all know. That there's a lawsuit filed for adverse possession or, adverse possession of claim for real property. So, the property now has been encumbered. There's a mechanics lien on the property. There are other things with that, and you can't sell the building because it doesn't belong to you. It doesn't belong to you. It belongs to citizens of Cherryville and Mr. Palmer Huffstetler Sr., wrote that in a letter that he did to the to the board. Addressing it to Joe, Bill Putnam. So, it's the idea that we've been we've actually you can call it whatever you want to squatters' rights or whatever adverse possession, we possess that building for four months shy. We're much shy of, and met all the other requirements of double the amount of time the state statute allows. It requires."

Councilmember Parker, "Can I ask one question? Who has filed A lawsuit?"

Mr. Putnam, "The Cherryville Historical Association has filed the lawsuit."

Councilmember Parker, "Who signed the lawsuit?"

Mr. Putnam, "The Charitable Historic Association. It's the board. The board made the decision."

Councilmember Parker, "And you're the chairman."

Mr. Putnam, no, I am the president."

Councilmember Parker, "You are the president so you signed it then."

Mr. Putnam, "The Cherryville Historic Association filed the lawsuit."

Councilmember Parker, "But you had to have individuals signed the lawsuit, right? And was your name on the lawsuit?"

Mr. Putnam, "My name is on an affidavit."

Councilmember Parker, "If you're part of that lawsuit, then this council is not permitted to even talk to you. So, I feel like this conversation is over far as I'm concerned."

Mr. Putnam, "Yeah, well. Well, that's yeah." Mr. Putnam looked at someone in the audience and stated, "How are you in control of things?"

Councilmember Abernethy, "Your time is up, Sir, please."

Mr. Putnam, "Is it? Paige didn't say it was, so, it's not."

Mr. Abernethy, "You threaten the lawsuit, your time is up. We don't have to talk to you. We will talk to your lawyer. We don't have to talk to you anymore."

Mr. Putnam, "Per say, so it's going to go."

Mr. Rusty Wise of 1204 Johnson Drive.

Mr. Wise, "Maybe not all there that's hard to follow. Yeah. Rusty wise. 24 Johnson drive. You know, I was one of the bidders. You know, for the museum and, the first beating process was a fiasco, and I know y'all don't like that word, but the first process was definitely a fiasco, and there's three or four things wrong with it, and I still do not have an answer why you scrapped the first process. No answer was ever given to me or anybody. No statement. You just, you know, strapped all the bids."

Councilmember Abernethy, "We were contacted by your lawyer saying that we were going to be sued if we did not take your bid. We felt like we had another valid bid of \$300,000, we were never threatened to be sued by that person, but he thought his bid was valid. You thought yours was valid. The best thing for the city to do after being corrected with the lawsuit was to scrap the process and start all over. So, you are the reason we did not take any of those bids and start it over again."

Mr. Wise, "Not necessarily. There's no lawsuit. That was the only valid bid on the table at the time."

Councilmember Abernethy, "In your opinion."

Mr. Wise, "In Raleigh lawyer's opinion. Why didn't you take the \$300,000?"

Councilmember Abernethy, "Because you threaten to sue us if we didn't take yours."

Mayor Beam, "We shut down all bids at that time. All bids."

Mr. Wise, "The 300,000 I mean, had you accepted that then that would have been a really bad situation for the city? So, the, the legal being is \$263,000 as far as the lawyers in Raleigh? So, I mean we could, you scrapped it, I mean you used the last clause, which you can do that, that's fine. And so, we didn't bid again, but I think making the decisions you're making is based totally off money. The lithium deals money, the museums money. There's no other reason why you would sell the museum other than get money. I know you want to get rid of the board. That's one of the reasons I understand that, and you know your, your, your cluster home neighborhood, that's about money. So, I think you know most of the decisions are made totally about money. I just hope and I hope, Mr. O'Leary or Cherryville Main Street LLC, at least keeps the museum where it is, and you guys have said he's a billionaire. That's 1000 millionaires, Billionaires is a lot of zeroes and he's got that kind of money I challenge Mr. O'Leary to keep the museum where it is, make an ADA accessible, we'll put an elevator again for all the citizens of Cherryville. That's the best thing that could happen in my opinion. So that's all I have to say."

CONSIDERATION OF PUBLIC HEARING RE: ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT TO ZONING ORDINANCE PART 5 SECTION 5.2.3(b.), PLANNING & ZONING DIRECTOR ALEX BLACKBURN:

Councilmember Parker made a motion to enter into public hearing. Councilmember Puett seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Planning & Zoning Director Alex Blackburn approached the podium and shared the following:

“Thank you, Mayor council. So recently we were in talks with the developer for a commercial property and we were going over the required buffer yards and he said I'll do it. I'm fine doing whatever y'all want, but I do have a question. Why is it that I can only make a wooden fence? Yes, I can do that, but I really don't want to put a wooden fence up because I'm going to have to repair it every five years. You know, as they make vinyl and make other forms of fencing, that would be a good buffer for my business so neighbors don't see my business and I don't see neighbors. At that point city manager Brian Dalton and I got together and realized, that is a good point and, with the materials that you can make a fence out of these days, we're really limited in both our aesthetics around the city as well as what a developer can do. So, we've decided to add vinyl or masonry or any combination of the above with the exception that we will remove chain link fences shall be excluded as a buffer. It kinda defeats the purpose of a buffer since you can see through it. So, this was brought before the planning board. It passed unanimously through the Planning Board for recommendation for approval for you and the City Council. We have placed ads public notices as well as ads in the Cherryville newspaper for two consecutive weeks. So, it met all the requirements.”

No citizens spoke on this matter.

Councilmember Parker made a motion to exit public hearing. Councilmember's Freeman and Puett seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Below is a copy of the amendment:

Text Amendment for City of Cherryville Zoning Ordinance Part 5, Section 5.2.3(b.)

Recently, City Staff have discussed the requirements outlined below in regards to the required screening aspect of certain uses within our Zoning Ordinance. Either wall or fences are allowed to take the place of natural plantings where sufficient room does not exist. Our current Ordinance, found below requires that any fence be made of wood and gives no other alternative for materials allowed. City Staff is looking to amend the current text to allow for a wider variety of buffering fence material that will also be easier to maintain and more aesthetically pleasing to neighboring properties.

As the Ordinance currently reads:

- b. Walls or Fences. Any wall shall be constructed in a durable fashion with a finish surface or brick, stone or other decorative masonry material approved by the Zoning Administrator. Fences shall be constructed of wood in a durable fashion and of durable, weather resistant wood fencing materials and of consistent pattern. No wall or fence shall be less than six (6) feet nor greater than eight (8) feet in height above grade. All walls and fences shall be constructed in accordance with Section 5.2.6 of this Ordinance.

Proposed amendment:

- b. Walls or Fences. Any wall shall be constructed in a durable fashion with a finish surface or brick, stone or other decorative masonry material approved by the Zoning Administrator. Fences shall be constructed of wood in a durable fashion and of durable, weather resistant wood fencing materials of consistent pattern, vinyl, or masonry or any combination of the above. No wall or fence shall be less than six (6) feet nor greater than eight (8) feet in height above grade. All walls and fences shall be constructed in accordance with Section 5.2.6 of this Ordinance. This shall exclude the use of Chain-Link Fences from being considered buffer material.

Below is a copy of the Statement of Consistency:



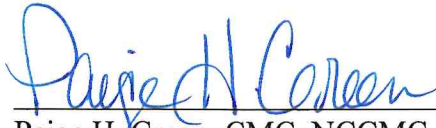
Statement of Consistency

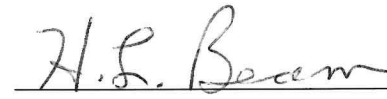
**CITY OF CHERRYVILLE
REQUIREMENT OF SECTION 19.1.10 OF
THE CITY OF CHERRYVILLE ZONING ORDINANCE**

The Cherryville City Council, held a Public Hearing on: **July 10, 2023** to consider the Zoning Text Amendment regarding Part 5, Section 5.2.3 of the Zoning Ordinance. After the Public Hearing the Council draws the following CONCLUSIONS:

1. It is the Council's conclusion that the proposed amendment **IS** / **IS NOT** consistent with the City of Cherryville Land Use Plan and reasonable with the spirit of the Ordinance.
-
2. The Council finds the proposed amendment **IS** / **IS NOT** reasonable and **IS** / **IS NOT** in the public interest. This conclusion is based on the following:

Ordered this 10th day of July, 2023


Paige H. Green, CMC, NCCMC, City Clerk


H.L. Beam, Mayor

Councilmember vote unanimously on the highlighted responses above. Councilmember Puett made a motion to approve the amendment to zoning ordinance pat 5 section 5.2.3(b.). Councilmember Abernethy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

CONSIDERATION OF UPSET BID PROCESS RE: CITY PROPERTY LOCATED AT 109 E. MAIN STREET, MAYOR H.L. BEAM:

Mayor Beam asked that the \$400,000 bid from Mr. Patrick O'Leary or Cherryville Main Street LLC,.

Mr. Dalton, "Mayor and Council, I'll give. You just a brief rundown of how it transpired on May the 31st, the city of Cherryville did receive an offer of \$400,000 for the historical museum from Trevor Main Street LLC that was brought before you at the June 12th Council meeting. At that time, it was unanimously voted to start the upset bid process. The advertisement was run in the Cherryville Eagle on June the 21st, and it ran all the way till July the third, where anybody could put in a bid. We did receive, like I said earlier, the 400,000 from Cherryville Main Street LLC with the \$20,000 deposit on May 31st and nobody else put in any bids as of the last day, which was June, July the 3rd at 5:00 o'clock PM."

Mayor Beam, "Since we are discussing this from our city attorney, can we bring this before a vote to accept the bid or decline it if we have a lawsuit?"

Attorney Huffstetler Jr., yes you may proceed."

Councilmember Parker, "The only thing I got to say about it is this is not the first time this building has ever been sold."

Councilmember Freeman, "Yeah, my great uncle and aunt donated that building to the city. Their portraits hang in it. We had no intention of selling. In fact, we tried to work with the board. Get them to change the bylaws to give the city more input. They refused they voted it down. We've seen what Mr. O'Leary has done. The other buildings he bought the city of Cherryville and he's one of the only ones right now, that are making the buildings better. Renovating and putting new roofs on them. Renting them to businesses that are good for this town. We saw what he did with the YMCA. He took that building completely renovated it rented

it to the YMCA and then his foundation has given him a donation every month to pay the rent, also renovating the other two parts in the back to make it even better. I don't, you know somebody have a problem with one person owning that much property but, he's the one in this town doing something to improve the town. And I think it's a good thing. You know, if we could have worked with the board, got more input as the city, but we own the building, but we had no say on anything in the way it was being run. The only way that we can really get out of this situation is to sell it to Mr. O'Leary and let him, I'm not sure what he's going to do but I've heard he's going to offer to rent it back to the museum or to the historical association with conditions. And I think he's a fair man. And he'll try to work it out with the historical association. Are we ready for a motion? I'd like to make a motion to go ahead and accept his bid and sell the building to Mr. O'Leary."

Councilmember Puett, "Mine is to seconded that motion and it's totally because of the work. Just like you stated that we've seen done. Mr. O'Leary does preserve everything that he finds that's historical about our buildings. My grandfather laid the brick and a lot of these buildings downtown he was a brick mason, and there's a lot of historical and value in every building that's out there. In the architecture of it and the one thing like seeing because the building has been deteriorating over the years because there is nothing going on in it, never opened, but a few hours on Saturday and for the longest, for the last 10 years that I've been on this board, there has been absolutely nothing really going on and it's only open when we have an event. And Pat, bless her heart Pat Sherrill has tried her best to get volunteers. A lot of the older ladies in this town my mother was one that would go in and try to help them too, and they tried to sell things, but for the last 10 years there has been no interest in that building. And it could be a beautiful building. I've seen the pictures of it before, all of that brown stuff that was put on the front of it. It was a beautiful piece of architecture, but it's covered up. I think Mr. O'Leary has done a great job in trying to enhance our building and building that he cares about our heritage, not just a few people in this town. He also cares about the heritage of this town and so my vote is to 2nd that motion."

The vote was unanimous.

Mayor Beam, "The only comment I would have is, I resent the fact that someone suggests that there's not transparency in this Council. That is an absolute lie. I ran the first time when I ran for mayor, mine was TLC, transparency, leadership, and commitment. I'm 78 years old, I have lived in this town for every year except the time that I was in college. And you know what, I've been mayor for 10 years and I have never, ever made a decision by this Council or with this Council except for things that are positive for our city. We have made some bold decisions. I know we have when we decided to put new infrastructure in downtown, new water lines, new signs are going up. Welcome to Cherryville, the parks are being renovated. Everything we have done is try to help this town move forward in a positive direction, not a negative direction. So, for someone to say there's not transparency, I resent that statement. I've been here 10 years and I hope to be here for two more years and I will tell you right now that this Council I enjoy

working with these four people because they're not afraid to make a bold decision. That's all I have to say."

CONSIDERATION OF BUDGET ORDINANCE RE: AIA GRANT OF \$300,000 FOR WATER AND SEWER STUDY, CITY MANAGER BRIAN DALTON:

Mr. Dalton shared the following information, "Yes, mayor, council as you're aware, we received a \$300,000 grant to do a study on our water system and our wastewater system, \$150,000 for each. And if you look there on page 34 you can see it broken down for each incident, and how much, how much we're going to spend to smoke test the lines, inspections, project management, manhole inspections on the wastewater side, and on the water side, you can see there that it's going to be some line location, some potholing hydraulic model of water system. And basically, we're going to find out where, where our biggest needs are and what we need to focus on the most. And this project here is going to lead us to where we're going to get the answers that we need to hopefully go after some larger grants in the near future where we can try to fix the problems that we find when this this project is completed. So, this is just a capital budget ordinance for both the water and the wastewater that we need to get adopted. And this is just where when we get the funds in from the state, we bring them in, they're in their own line item and then we spend the funds as they're allocated here in the budget ordinance in both incidents.

Below is a copy of both budget ordinances:



Capital Project Budget Ordinance

BE IT ORDAINED by the Councilmembers of the City of Cherryville, that, pursuant to Section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following capital project ordinance is hereby adopted:

Section 1. The project authorized is the Asset Inventory and Assessment (AIA) study **Wastewater Project No. AIA-W-ARP-0128**, to be financed by a State Fiscal Recovery Funds (ARP) Grant.

Section 2. The officers of the City of Cherryville are hereby directed to proceed with the capital project within the terms of the funding program requirements and the budget contained herein.

Section 3. The following amounts are appropriated for the project:

Account Description	Account Code	Amount
Project Management/Admin	40-7110-1820	15,000
Smoke Testing	40-7110-1820	42,000
Manhole Inspections	40-7110-1820	10,000

CCTV Inspections	40-7110-1820	45,000
Review and Assessment	40-7110-1820	20,000
Project Report & Update Asset Management Plan	40-7110-1820	18,000
Total		<u>\$150,000</u>

Section 4. The following revenues are anticipated to be available to complete this project:

Revenue Description	Account Code	Amount
State Fiscal Recovery Funds (ARP) Grant	40-3710-2620	\$150,000
Total		<u>\$150,000</u>

Section 5. The Treasurer is hereby directed to maintain within the Capital Project Fund sufficient specific detailed accounting records to satisfy the requirements of the funding agency, the funding agreements, and federal regulations.


Section 6. Funds may be advanced from the General Fund for the purpose of making payments as due. Reimbursement requests should be made to the funding agency in an orderly and timely manner.

Section 7. The Treasurer is directed to report, on a quarterly basis, on the financial status of each project element in Section 3 and on the total revenues received or claimed.

Section 8. The Treasurer is directed to include a detailed analysis of past and future costs and revenues on this capital project in every budget submission made to this Board.

Section 9. Copies of this capital project budget ordinance shall be furnished to the Secretary to the Board, and to the Treasurer for direction in carrying out this project.

Adopted this 10th day of July, 2023 at Cherryville, North Carolina.



H. L. Beam, Mayor

ATTEST:



Paige Green, City Clerk



Capital Project Budget Ordinance

BE IT ORDAINED by the Councilmembers of the City of Cherryville, that, pursuant to Section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following capital project ordinance is hereby adopted:

Section 1. The project authorized is the Asset Inventory and Assessment (AIA) study **Water Project No. AIA-D-ARP-0117**, to be financed by a State Fiscal Recovery Funds (ARP) Grant.

Section 2. The officers of the City of Cherryville are hereby directed to proceed with the capital project within the terms of the funding program requirements and the budget contained herein.

Section 3. The following amounts are appropriated for the project:

Account Description	Account Code	Amount
Project Management/Admin	40-7110-1820	15,000
Line Location	40-7110-1820	35,000
Potholing	40-7110-1820	20,000
Hydraulic Model of Water System	40-7110-1820	57,000
Review and Assessment	40-7110-1820	15,000
Project Report & Update Asset Management Plan	40-7110-1820	8,000
Total		<u>\$150,000</u>

Section 4. The following revenues are anticipated to be available to complete this project:

Revenue Description	Account Code	Amount
State Fiscal Recovery Funds (ARP) Grant	40-3710-2620	\$150,000
Total		<u>\$150,000</u>

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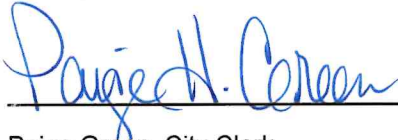
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Adopted this 10th day of July, 2023 at Cherryville, North Carolina.



H. L. Beam, Mayor

ATTEST:



Paige Green, City Clerk

Councilmember Abernethy made a motion to approve both capital budget ordinances. One for the water project and one for the wastewater project. Councilmember Parker seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. Dalton, "Yes, mayor council, the first thing is. You all should have a photo that I sent you from Westgate Park. You know we've had the two new basketballs goals put up and today he was putting down the resurfacing and you know, and making our court, you know pretty it's, it's a pretty royal blue color today, and tomorrow he's going to, Paige looked at me when I said that because she likes those Blue Devils. Tomorrow he'll put down, he'll put down the lines, free throw lines and all that, and we'll get all that completed. And then the basketball court will be done. Mike Steele is scheduled to go to Johnson Drive next week and finish patching that, and then he's going to go pour the asphalt for the pickleball courts that we're going to build at Westgate Park. Now that asphalt will have to stay down for about 30 days before we can resurface it, according to Mr. Sosebee when I talked to him. So, it'll have to be down for 30 days, then he'll come back in, finish the pickleball courts, and then hopefully we can get Mike back out there to finish the paving around the park and we'll be pretty much completed there. From there, we've already scheduled Mr. Sosebee to go to Edwards Park next, we're going to resurface that entire court and I believe I've shown the mayor a picture of what we've picked out. You know, we're going to try to stick with John Chavis Middle School colors do the royal blue with the with the orange, to make it, you know, match the John Chavis Middle School. I actually sent the e-mail today to the company that we've been purchasing the basketball goals

from, to try to order six goals at one time. So, four of those goals will go up at Edwards Park, if you go down there, you can see that they got they have two full courts down there, so we're going to put four new goals up, and resurfaced that court. From there, we'll go to Rotary Park. You know, Rotary Park just has a small, small basketball court. We're probably going to at least resurface that. That's probably our best playground equipment, I would say, is Rotary Park. The goal at Rotary Park is in pretty good shape, so I don't know if we'll change that one out for sure, but Ranbar Park over behind Small Town Kitchen, that park if you've been over there lately, the tennis court has been non-existent for a long time, so we're going to try to see about converting that tennis court into two outdoor pickleball courts as well over there, and obviously resurface that court and get a new basketball goal there. The other part, Aaron Moss Park. There's a lot of things that's probably going to be going on at that park. I did get word that there is a good possibility that Gaston County is going to go to basically playing middle school baseball on a regulation 60-foot mound, 90-foot bases. So, what we would do is we would move the middle school baseball team up to the Senior Little League field. So, if that happens, we're going to try to go in there and obviously we're going have to do some work on that field and get that field in better shape for the middle school baseball season, and hopefully we're going to get a confirmation in the next few weeks because I'm, I don't want them waiting until February and then telling us, oh yes were going to move to 60/90, so I am hoping that is going to come in pretty quick. If you ever go to Aaron Moss Park, this park has the most people playing basketball of any court that we have. One of the goals is completely broken right now so we are looking to order two new basketball goals there, we are going to resurface that basketball court as well. The other big project that we have been talking about, and I am hoping that will come to reality very soon is, a gymnasium being built there at Aaron Moss Park. You know, we had originally talked about the grass parking lot area there as you turn into the parking lot there, at the you know the City Park softball field but, that area is not big enough to fit the gym. And like I said, we're not trying to reinvent the wheel. We've been to Stanley and we've looked at the gym that they have. I've got their plans, I've got their contractors, I've already got prices on the material, the concrete, an individual erecting the building. I've sent it to a try to get some prices on plumbing so we'll know where we're at. I'm going try to get some prices on the electrical cost. The city of Stanley has been really helpful in trying to walk us through the process as far as how they got their gym built. I've sent all of you pictures and I know you've seen them. I know Mr. Parker went and looked at it. You know I encourage any of you, if you have time to let me know and we can schedule a time that I can take you down there and let you look at the gym. It's a beautiful facility and I think it's something that we desperately need in the town and it would go a long way for helping our youth programs, you know, have a place to, to practice. Especially in basketball, but there's a lot of other things we can also do other than basketball. You know, I would hope we can have volleyball, maybe even some wrestling tournaments. Who knows, I mean, we could do a lot of things with this. It would have a small concession stand, bathrooms of course, and office. And if we do get the gym built, I feel like we are going to have to move forward with a full-time recreation director at that point, because we're going to have somebody that's going to manage and oversee a lot of that."

Mayor Beam, "That gym would be about a million and a half."

Mr. Dalton, "That's kind of the goal to stay there and I believe we can do it. There is another thing that that I really have on my on my mind and planning is you know Dr. White and I was actually talking a little bit about it earlier is working to try to bring back our Little League program. A lot better. And a lot of that comes. From you know. I think we got to get our facilities back to where they need to be and. I would also. I've already started talking to some contractors about the potential of building. Like an in. I wouldn't say indoor, but a batting cage that has a roof over it and you know has power and things like if you've been to, you know, Shelby and looked at their field over there, you know they have the batting cage down there on the right field line where they have the roof and you know you can go in there and flip the lights on and hit at night, whatever it might be. So, I've talked to some contractors about potentially doing that as well. You know, probably put something like that down at the Little League up on the hill where we got plenty of room and something that people can, you know, be proud of and go hit."

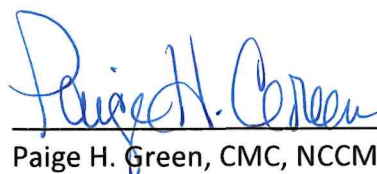
Councilmember Freeman asked about the upkeep of the flower beds on Main Street.


Mr. Dalton, "It I don't know about dead plants for sure, but we did have some weeds. If you looked at from Pink to Depot now, a lot of our people, if you know one of our employees just recently retired because of an injury that was assigned to Main Street. A lot of our employees was busy getting up debris and doing other things, but they did go up last week and they cleaned up all the flower beds. So, if you ride by tonight, you'll see that the weeds are gone from Pink to Depot was there was some weeds growing in those flower beds. I do believe that it's time that we look at mulching the beds as well."

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Abernethy made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Puett seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 6:52 pm.

Adopted this 14 day of August 2023.


Paige H. Green, CMC, NCCMC, City Clerk


H.L. Beam, Mayor



